(d) further measures contemplated by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MININISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI. RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) to (d). The Judge strength has been increased form time to time. Procedural and Jurisdictional improvements and modifications to speed up disposal of cases have been made. The various Courts are taking suitable steps such as grouping of cases involving common question of law, giving priority to cases requiring quick disposal, constitution of specilised benches, etc. The Benches are being so constituted in the Supreme Court that they function for a longer period and work so allocated that similar matters are posted before the same Bench. The various recommendations of the Arrears Committee's Report which went into the problem of arrears in the High Courts. have been forwarded to all concerned such as the State Governments, the concerned central Ministries and all the High Courts for follow up action. It is difficult to quantify precisely the results achieved from the various steps taken. However it may be pointed out that there has been a perceptible improvement. In the case of Supreme Court of India, the number of pending cases which was 201383 as on 1.1.90 has come down to 135374 as on 1.10.91. As regards the High Courts, although the pendency of cases has increased due to institution of larger number of cases, the rate of disposal and quantum of disposal has increased during the last few years. The number of cases disposed in 1989 were 770946 as compared to 605698 in 1985. The ongoing multipronged exercise to tackle the problem of arrears has necessarily to be taken on a continuing basis.

**Unauthorised Encroachments into Cantonment Lands**

1361. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Defence Estate Office (DEO), Central Command, has prepared a comprehensive report on the question of unauthorised encroachments into various defence lands within cantonment areas under the Central Command;

(b) if so, whether the orders and instructions to various Cantonment Boards under the Central Command to safeguard various parks and public utility centres on defence lands have been largely defined by some Contonment Boards under the Command;

(c) whether despite strict instructions against encroachments by the DEO, Central Command, some of the boards and officers have allowed permanent constructions of hotels and buildings on defence lands and parks;

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(e) whether it is proposed to refer the matter to CBI; and

(f) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) No such report has been prepared by the Defence Estates authorities in the Central Command.

(b) No such case has come to Government's notice.

(c) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government.

(d) to (f). Does not arise.